

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information device system comprising:

at least two information devices connected via a bus or a network, said information devices having ID numbers automatically assigned subsequently to being connected to said bus or network,

wherein each information device identifies the other information device using the ID number of the other information device,

wherein each information device comprises:

storage means for storing device name data indicating a name of said information device to provide information used for distinguishing an identification of said information device from the other information device, and another storage means for storing function data including instruction data used for enabling said information device to be controlled by the other information device,

wherein said information device sends to the other information device said function data including information data in response to a request from the other information device and receives from the other information device information which is generated by the other information device based on said function data received so that said information device is controlled by the other information device,

wherein at least one of said information devices further comprises:

first storage means for storing device name data received from the other information device, and

second storage means for storing function data sent from said the other information device,

wherein said one information device controls the other information device such that said one information device requests one or more other information devices in said system to send device name data and stores the received device name data in said first storage means, requests a subject information device to be controlled among the other information devices in said system to send function data and stores said function data sent from said subject information device in said second storage means, generates control information based on said function data stored in said second storage means for controlling said subject information device and sends the generated control information to control said subject information device.